

REMARKS

Claims 1-97 are currently pending, with claim 1 being the sole independent claim. Claims 1-97 have been amended. The amendments to the claims are to correct minor claim wording, and are cosmetic in nature. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action dated March 21, 2006, independent claim 1, and dependent claims 2-6, 8, 12-16, 18-22, 23-31, 43-45, 49-52, 56-59, 61, 65-69, 71, 72, 76-80, 82-84, 88-98 and 94-97 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,061,346 ("*Nordman*"), while dependent claims 7, 17, 32-36, 60, 70, 81 and 93 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Nordman* in view of RFC 2251 ("*Wahl*"). In addition, dependent claims 9-11, 37-39, 40-42, 46-48, 53-55, 60, 62-64, 73-75 and 85-87 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Nordman* in view of RFC 1771 ("*Rekhter*"). For the following reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all claims of the present application are patentable over the cited references.

Nordman relates to a method and associated apparatus for accessing a private IP network with a wireless host by way of a wireless access network (see Abstract). *Nordman* (Abstract, lines 3-5) teaches once authenticated access is permitted to the private IP network, and the wireless host becomes a virtual host of the private IP network, a wireless host identifier is used to identify the wireless host. Thus, *Nordman* teaches remote accessing of a private network from a location using a wireless capability connected to an intermediary network.

The Office Action (pg. 2, ¶2) states:

Nordman teaches a network element, said network element being arranged to act between a first IP based network and a second packet data network (**GGSN 92 could be interpreted as a network as claimed and is arranged to act between home IP access control network 94, which could be interpreted as the first IP based network, and backbone network 46, which could be interpreted as the second packet data network. See Fig. 1-2 Nordman.**), said element comprising:

A first interface arranged to communicate with first IP based network using IP protocol to receive signals from and send signals to the first network, said first IP based network being a private computer based network comprising wireless capabilities (**GGSN 92 receives/sends signal from/to home based IP network. See Fig. 1, and Home IP network is a computer, with a wireless**

system.) The tunneling is occurring in the first network 14; hence, the traffic within first network and without any signaling occurring externally of the first network (See Fig. 1 and col 7, lines 7-25, **Nordman.**)

A second interface arranged to communicate with second network via an IP based connection to receive signals from and send signals to the second network (See col 7, lines 16-26 **Nordman.**)

With respect to the foregoing statement, Applicant respectfully asserts that *Nordman* fails to teach the invention recited in independent claim 1. *Nordman* (col. 6, lines 29-32; Fig. 1) teaches that the network infrastructure of the communication system 10 forms a wireless access network that is coupled to the private IP network 14 by way of a backbone network 46. Consequently, *Nordman* teaches that the user equipment 12, when attempting to access the private IP network 14, communicates via the backbone network 46 using the backbone network's associated wireless access equipment.

In contrast, however, independent claim 1 recites the limitation "the first IP based network is a private computer based network comprising wireless capabilities". Consequently, the claimed invention attempts to use an internal private computer based network to exchange both voice and data packets internally where both parties are within the internal private network, and via an external network, where at least one of the parties is located away from the private network. *Nordman* fails to teach this claimed aspect of the present invention.

Even assuming *arguendo* that *Nordman* teaches the first network is the private network 14 and the second network is the backbone network 46, as maintained by the Examiner, *Nordman* would still fail to teach that the first IP based network is "a private computer based network comprising wireless capabilities," as recited in independent claim 1. *Nordman* fails provide the slightest hint that the private IP network disclosed therein has wireless capabilities. Rather, *Nordman* (Fig. 1) teaches that the backbone network possesses wireless capabilities for enabling connection to the user equipment.

Furthermore, *Nordman* (Fig. 1) teaches the user equipment has to communicate via the backbone network (i.e., the second network) in order for the user equipment 12 to communicate with a user within the "boundaries" of the private IP access network, since even though a tunneling protocol is used, once authentication is successful, the backbone network is still required to physically carry the tunneled packets. Thus, *Nordman* fails to teach "[an] interface ... arranged so that traffic intended for a user within [the] first IP based network from another

user within [the] first network can occur without any signaling occurring externally of [the] first network,” as recited in claim 1. Consequently, *Nordman* fails to teach the claimed invention for this additional reason.

Moreover, it would not have been obvious to a person skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the claimed network so as to arrive at the invention recited in claim 1, because *Nordman* teaches exactly the opposite with respect to network access and network interface control. *Nordman* teaches that a user may be located physically within the “boundaries of a private network”, i.e., in other words within the office space served by the private network. *Nordman* teaches that the user has to communicate with the private network via the backbone network using the wireless capabilities of the backbone network. As a result, any additional users who are also located within the boundaries of the private network would also require their data to be passed via the backbone network. In view of the foregoing, independent claim 1 is patentable over *Nordman*, and therefore reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) are in order, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner cites *Wahl* based on the failure of *Nordman* to teach the features cited in dependent claims 7 and 17. *Wahl* relates to directory access protocols that provides both read and write update access. However, *Wahl* fails to cure the deficiencies of *Nordman*, since *Wahl* fails to teach or suggest *inter alia* that “a private computer based network comprising wireless capabilities,” as recited in independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claims 7 and 17 are also patentable over the combination of *Nordman* and *Wahl* due to their dependency on claim 1.

The Examiner cites *Rekhter* based on the failure of *Nordman* to teach the features cited in dependent claim 11. *Rekhter* relates to a Border Gateway Protocol (BGP). *Rekhter* (pg. 2, paragraph 2) teaches that BGP is an inter-Autonomous system routing protocol. However, *Rekhter* fails to cure the deficiency of *Nordman*, because *Rekhter* also fails to teach or suggest *inter alia* the claimed “private computer based network comprising wireless capabilities”, as recited in amended claim 1. Therefore, dependent claim 11 is also patentable over the combination of *Nordman* and *Rekhter* due to its dependency on independent claim 1. Consequently, the claimed invention is also patentable over the combination of *Nordman*, *Wahl* and/or *Rekhter* and thus, withdrawal of all the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is in order, and a notice to that effect is requested.

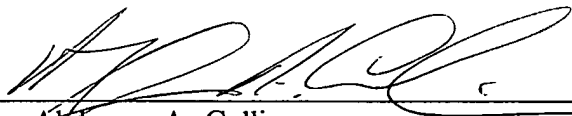
In view of the patentability of independent claim 1, for the reasons set forth above, dependent claims 2-97 are all patentable over the prior art.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is in condition for allowance. Early passage of this case to issue is requested.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

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